**Supplementary**

**Bibliography for Workshop on Struggling Readers Grades 5-12**

**Studies and Research Committee IRC Conference 9:15 – 10:15 March 18, 2011 CenterB-7W**

**Selections taken mainly from a workshop presentation on the struggling reader by Betsy Shea, Champaign Public Library**

1. ***The Barrio Kings* by William Kowalski (Rapid Reads)**

**Interest Level: Adult**

**Reading Level: Grade 2.1**

**Themes; Gangs, loyalty, friendship**

Rosario Gomez is trying to go straight. He has a job, a pregnant girlfriend, an almost-completed GED, and ambitions to claim a place for his family in a different America than the one he knows in the barrio. He has promised his girlfriend, Connie, that he will not go back to the Barrio Kinds and will live an exemplary life for her and their unborn son.

1. ***Burger Wuss*, by Matthew T.Anderson**

**Interest Level: Grades 9-12**

**Reading Level: Grade 3.5, Lexile 420**

**Genre:**

From Publishers Weekly

When Anthony's girlfriend dumps him for a guy who works for a fast food chain, he devises a complicated plan to get her back by working for a rival restaurant. "Anderson's witty tale of a lovelorn boy and his corporate antagonists is both a tasty read and a stinging satire. Ages 14-up.

1. ***Cellular* by Ellen Scwartz**

**Interest Level: Grade 6-12**

**Reading Level: Grades 2.3**

**Genre:**

Brendan has it all-captain of the basketball team, good friends, a beautiful girlfriend and a loving family - until he is diagnosed with leukemia. Terrified and convinced that no one understands what he is going through, Brendan faces chemotherapy alone, until he meets Lark. She is also in treatment, although her condition is much worse, and yet she remains positive and hopeful. Brendan is torn between feeling sorry for himself and the love for life that Lark brings to even the simplest thing. Through Lark, he discovers the strength to go on, to fight for survival and to love.

1. ***Dangerous Girls* by R.L Stine**

**Interest Level: Grades 9-12**

**Reading Level: Grade 2.7 Lexile 510**

***From Wikipedia: Dangerous Girls*** is the first book in the *Dangerous Girls* series by [R. L. Stine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/R._L._Stine). This book is about Destiny and Livvy, two twin sisters who turn into partial [vampires](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vampires) at summer camp. It was published on August 2003 by HarperCollins in the United States. A sequel, [*The Taste of Night*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Taste_of_Night) was published on August 2004.

1. ***Devil’s Ride* – Avi**

**Interest Level: Grades 6-8**

**Reading Level: Grade 4.4 Lexile 470**

**Genre: Horror/supernatural**

From Amazon

Sixteen-year-old John Proud discovers his family's dark secret. In 1854 an ancestral namesake confessed to being a demon. Now John finds himself battling his ancestor who is trying to use John for an evil purpose. Mounting suspense plus the sure draw of occult horror will keep readers turning the pages.' 'BL.

1. ***The Fall Guy* Barbara Fradkin**

**Interest Level: Grades 6-12**

**Reading Level:**

**Genre:**

[**http://rapid-reads.com/bookdetails/fallguy**\_**details.html**](http://rapid-reads.com/bookdetails/fallguy_details.html)Handyman Cedric O'Toole likes his simple life. He lives by himself on an isolated farm, collecting sheds full of junk and dreaming of his next invention. Then one day a slick city lawyer drives down his lane and his nightmare begins. Lori-Anne Wilkins, the wife of a wealthy local businessman, has fallen to her death from a deck Cedric built and the furious widower has slapped him with a lawsuit.

1. ***Jay –Z* by Roman Nacerous**

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*Summary from www.lybrary.com/jayz-p-98195.html* The story of Jay-Z's life is a story of hard work. He grew up in a poor neighborhood in New York City, but now he has more number-one albums than any other hip-hop artist. He has worked with many famous people, from his wife, BeyoncÃ©, to Kanye West. Jay-Z is also a very successful businessman. His story inspires people to dream big and work to make those dreams come true

1. **WW E: John Cena**

**Interest Level: Grades 2-6**

**Reading Level: Grade 2**

**Genre: nonfiction**

Product Description: Learn about your favorite SuperStar John Cena and how he became the World Heavyweight Champion. Read about his finishing and signature moves and signature foreign objects, nicknames, signature taunts and managers.

1. ***LeBron James* by Jeff Savage**

**Interest Level: Grades 3-6**

**Reading Level: Grade 3, Lexile 720**

**Genre: nonfiction**

Traces the career of LeBron James from childhood to success with the Cleveland Cavaliers. Only goes up to 2008.

**The Library of Doom Series:**

This series of 6+ graphic novels is aimed at students between grades 4 through 8 who are reading at a first through 3rd grade level.

[**http://www.capstonepub.com/product/9781598893243#**](http://www.capstonepub.com/product/9781598893243)

In the Library of Doom, The Librarian is in charge of keeping the world’s most dangerous books out of the hands of innocent readers. High quality art by Bradford Kendall that is visually linked to the text keeps the reader on edge from page to page as the stories unfold. This small size (6” x 8”) of these books contributes to the reader’s experience in this fantasy world. In the real world, this book-based fantasy series is a librarian’s good dream come true for struggling readers. Accelerated Reader Reading Practice Quizzes available. Horror/Fantasy by Sarah Braxton, Pennsylvania School Library Association

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| 1. **Library of Doom:** [***The Sea of Lost Books***](http://www.capstonepub.com/product/9781434221421) **by Michael Dahl**   **Interest Level: 4-8**  **Reading Level: 1-3, Lexile: 350, ATOS Level 2.9, Guided Reading Level J** |  |

The underwater library has been attacked. The Librarian will have to retrieve all of the lost books.

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| 1. **Library of Doom, *Inkfoot* by Michael Dahl** |  |

**Interest Level:** 4-8  
**Reading Level:** 1-3  
**Lexile Level:** 500L  
**ATOS Level:** 3.1

The Librarian helps Owen defeat the legendary Inkfoot.

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| 1. **Library of Doom: *The Creeping Bookends* by** [**Michael Dahl**](http://www.capstonepub.com/search/advanced?Mode=SEARCH_RESULT&txtPRODUCT_AUTHOR=Michael%20Dahl)   **Interest Level:** 3-8  **Reading Level:** 1-3, **GRL:** I, **Lexile Level:** 500L, **ATOS Level:** 3.1 |  |

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| One evening, a young boy is accidentally locked inside the library. Suddenly, a pair of lizard bookends come alive! The boy watches as the ravenous reptiles gobble up stacks of books. Will the Librarian arrive before the boy becomes their next meal? |

1. **Library of Doom: *Rats on the Page* by Michael Dahl**

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**Interest Level:** 4-8  
**Reading Level:** 1-3, **Lexile Level:** 450L, **ATOS Level:** 3.0, **Guided Reading Level:** J

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| A mysterious picture book turns children into hungry rat creatures. The rats travel through the sewers of the Library of Doom and begin to devour the library's most precious treasures. | | | |
| 1. **Library of Doom:** [**The Book That Ate My Brother**](http://www.capstonepub.com/product/9781434221445) **by Michael Dahl**   **Interest Level: 4-8** |  |

**Reading Level:** 1-3, **Lexile Level:** 330L, **ATOS Level:** 2.8

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| Jack writes a letter to the Librarian because he needs help. His brother has been eaten by a book! |

1. **Library of Doom: Escape from Pop-up Prison by Michael Dahl**

**Interest Level:** 3-8  
**Reading Level:** 1-3, **GRL:** I, **Lexile Level:** 440L, **ATOS Level:** 3.3

A girl follows a group of strangers inside the giant Library of Doom. The strangers want their evil friends released from the pages a pop-up book. Can the Librarian stop them before the world’s deadliest criminals are set free?

1. **Library of Doom: The Book that Dripped Blood by Michael Dahl**

**Reading Level:** 1-3  
**Interest Level:** 3-8, **GRL:** K, **Lexile Level:** 550L, **ATOS Level:** 3.2  
A strange and evil book comes to life, and the librarian comes to the rescue before more blood is spilled.

1. **Library of Doom: Zombie in the Library by Michael Dahl**

**Reading Level:** 1-3  
**Interest Level:** 3-8, **GRL:** J, **Lexile Level:** 440L, **ATOS Level:** 2.9

A zombie, made of unread and discarded books, comes to life during a lighting storm. A young boy makes the mistake of visiting the library after hours, and comes face to face with the hungry creature!

#### Ortona Street Fight by Mark Zuele

**Interest Level: Grades 6-12**

**Reading Level: between grades 2-4**

**Genre: Nonfiction history, war**

[**http://www.orcabook.com/productdetails.cfm?PC=866**](http://www.orcabook.com/productdetails.cfm?PC=866)

December 20, 1943. Two Canadian infantry battalions and a tank regiment stand poised on the outskirts of a small Italian port town. They expect to take Ortona quickly. But the German 1st Parachute Division has other ideas. For reasons unknown, Hitler has ordered Ortona held to the last man. Houses, churches and other buildings are dynamited, clogging the streets with rubble. Germans with machine guns lie in ambush. Snipers slip from one rooftop to another. The Canadians seem to have walked into a death trap. This is a battle fought at close range, often hand to hand. Casualties on both sides are heavy. In the end, raw courage and ingenuity save the Canadians.

1. **Rapid Read: *Middle Ground* by Zoe Whittall**

**Interest Level: Grades 8-12**

**Reading Level: Grade Fry Reading Level 4.2**

**Genre: realistic fiction**

Missy Turner's ordinary life is turned upside down when she is taken hostage in a botched robbery at the local café, and she finds herself questioning the validity of everything she's always believed in

1. **Rapid Read: *The Spider Bites* by Medora Sale**

**Interest Level: Grades 6-12**

**Reading Level: Grade 2**

**Genre: mystery, suspense**

Detective Rick Montoya must find out who firebombed his apartment before he can clear his name of a bribery charge.

1. **Sticks and Stones by Beth Goobie**

**Interest Level: Grades 9-12**

**Reading Level: 2.6, Lexile 430, Guided Reading NR**

**Genre: General Fiction**

**Themes: Character and Values, Friends and Friendship**Fifteen-year-old Jujube is called a slut after she and Brent kiss in his car during the Valentine's Day dance. As the rumors affect how she feels and acts, Jujube devises a plan to show the other students the pain they cause.

1. **Thunderbowl by Lesley Choyce**

**Interest Level: Grades 4-7**

**Reading Level: Grade 4, Lexile 520**

**Genre:**

Jeremy's band is hot -- really hot. Thunderbowl is on the way up and they have had their first big break???a long-term gig at a local bar. The only problem is that while Jeremy should be doing his homework and keeping up in school, he is spending most nights in a rowdy club, trying to keep the band together while his life is falling apart. Trying to balance his dreams of success with the hard realities of the music business, Jeremy is forced to make some tough choices.

1. ***Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Michaelson**

Interest Level: Grades 6-8  
Reading Level: Grade 5.4, Lexile 670  
  
After his anger erupts into violence, Cole, in order to avoid going to prison, agrees to participate in a sentencing alternative based on the native American Circle Justice, and he is sent to a remote Alaskan Island where an encounter with a huge Spirit Bear changes his life.

1. **Twisted Journeys: Escape from Pyramid X**

**Interest Level: Grades 4-7**

**Reading Level: Grade 4**

**Genre: graphic novel – choose your own path**

Product Description: Match your wits against a band of pirates on the high seas and try to defeat them—or join them! Every Twisted Journeys graphic novel lets YOU control the action by choosing which path to follow....

1. **Wolf Rider by Avi**

**Interest Level: Grades 6-8**

**Reading Level: Grade 4.4 Lexile 470 GR NR**

**Genre: general fiction**

From Book Wizard

After receiving an apparent crank call from a man claiming to have committed murder, fifteen-year-old Andy finds his close relationship with his father crumbling as he struggles to make everyone believe him

**Catalogue**

**Grades 6-12 Struggling Readers Collection Winter 2011**

**Follett Educational Services, Inc. 1433 Internationale Parkway Woodridge, IL 60517-4941**

This is a 16 page catalogue of hundreds of titles of both fiction and nonfiction books from a variety of publishers that are appropriate for struggling older readers.

[**http://www.fes.follett.com/catalogs/supplemental/struggling-readers/spring-2011/FY11-High-Low-Catalog.pdf**](http://www.fes.follett.com/catalogs/supplemental/struggling-readers/spring-2011/FY11-High-Low-Catalog.pdf)

,**Reading Level Conversion Chart**

In addition to including a comparison of grade level ratings by Guided Reading, Reading Recovery, DRA, Lexile, ATOS, and Follett, the chart includes a column of descriptors such as early emergent, upper emergent, early fluent, fluent, and extended.

[**http://www.dillon2.k12.sc.us/teachers/readinglevels/RL\_Chart\_J\_Bach.pdf**](http://www.dillon2.k12.sc.us/teachers/readinglevels/RL_Chart_J_Bach.pdf)